



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

10:00 AM

AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (17-4483)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

1. Call to Order. (17-4470)

Chairperson Bhatia called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Chairperson Bhatia led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Present: Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Johanna Arias-Bhatia,
Commissioner Percy Duran III and Commissioner Eleanor R.
Montaño

Excused: Vice Chairperson Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Susan
Burton and Commissioner Pauline Bullock

I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

2. Department of Auditor-Controller (AC). (17-3890)

Ms. Michele Day, AC, Group Home Ombudsman, distributed copies and reported on the Children's Group Home Ombudsman Activity Report during the month of August 2017.

There were a total of 18 Hotline Requests for Assistance Calls and there were a total of 13 Outreach visits.

3. Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). (17-3891)

Edyth Yates Redmond, Program Manager, Out of Home Care Management Division, DCFS, reported that during the month of August 2017 there were a total of 665 Absent Without Leave (AWOL) and the child abuse hotline received a total of 15 referrals in the following categories:

- **3 General Neglect**
- **2 Sexual Abuse**
- **9 Physical Abuse**
- **1 Emotional Abuse**

During the same reporting period 18 investigations were completed in the following categories:

- **5 General Neglect**
- **7 Physical Abuse**
- **6 Sexual Abuse**

During the same reporting period 18 referrals were closed for the following reasons:

- **9 Inconclusive**
- **3 Evaluated Out**
- **4 Unfounded**
- **2 Substantiated**

Ms. Redmond stated that some of the reports at Five Acres involved possible bullying among residents, and that one incident of reported physical abuse involved a staff member and that staff member received a final warning regarding conduct. Commissioner Bigby requested further investigation on this matter. DCFS Follow up regarding the female at Rosemary's 500 House who was refusing to go to school. Ms. Redmond reported this youth is enrolled at Pasadena High School, and has 3 absences so far this year, but DCFS will be having a team meeting to discuss further. Commissioner Bigby also reported to DCFS that Grace Residential is a great facility, but there are three male youths who also don't want to go to school. It was reported that Bayfront Youth and Family Services in Long Beach is closed.

Ms. Redmond also reported that during the month of August 2017 no group homes were placed on an Investigative Hold.

4. Internal Services Department (ISD). (17-3892)

No report was presented.

5. Department of Mental Health (DMH). (17-3893)

Bart Callender, DMH, reported that DMH continues to work on assisting group homes that are transitioning to SRTRP, and that Hathaway Sycamore is currently on an investigative hold since the end of August due to a youth who hung himself, resulting in his death.

6. Probation Department (PD). (17-3894)

Ms. Mikesha Taylor, Program Analyst, PD, provided the status of group home AWOLs during the months of July and August 2017 as follows:

In July there were 101 AWOLs involving 85 youth; 11 youth AWOLed more than once.

- 35 Remain AWOL
- 35 Returned to group homes
- 14 Placed in Juvenile Hall
- 1 Home on Probation

Ms. Taylor also reported that in July there were 16 CSEC AWOLs involving 9 youth.

- 3 Remain AWOL
- 5 Returned to group homes
- 1 Was detained in Juvenile Hall.

In August there were 69 AWOLs involving 66 youth; 3 youth AWOLed more than once.

- 22 Remain AWOL
- 30 Returned to group homes
- 12 Placed in Juvenile Hall
- 1 Home on Probation
- 1 Had Jurisdiction Terminated

Ms. Taylor also reported that in August there were 1 CSEC AWOL involving 1 youth.

- **1 Returned to group homes**

Ms. Taylor concluded by reporting that there were four full investigations in July 2017; two findings were Substantiated Physical Abuse: (Glen Mills and Penny Lane (Satellite III), There was one inconclusive General Neglect: (San Gabriel Children's Center (Enid), There was one unfounded General Neglect investigation in July 2017 (David and Margaret).

Ms. Taylor reported that there were two Child Abuse investigations in August 2017; One physical abuse result is Pending (Dimondale (Hawthorne), and one is Unfounded (Trinity (El Monte). There were five full investigations in August 2017; Three are pending completion, (Optimist (Main), General Neglect, (Loving Life (Site 1), Compliance Violation, and (Boys Republic), Sexual Assault. Two are inconclusive, (Glen Mills), General Neglect, and (Leroy Haynes), Staff Misconduct.

Ms. Taylor reported there were four follow-up investigations for August 2017; Two findings are pending, (Pacific Lodge), Compliance Violation, (Optimist), Compliance Violation, One finding is substantiated (Penny Lane (Satellite 3), Compliance Violation, and one is unfounded (San Gabriel Children's Center), General Neglect.

- 7. Office of the Inspector General (OIG). (17-3895)**

Barbara Phillips reports the OIG has been monitoring the jail facilities and CRDF is currently undergoing mock audit preparations.

- 8. Sheriff's Department (SD). (17-3896)**

Sergeant April Carter provided an update regarding the inmate beauty salon where Vice Chair Grills and Commissioner Burton had inquired if outside beauticians could work in the beauty salon to extend the staff to reduce wait times for appointments. This is an ongoing inquiry and a solution to this issue is being investigated, however the Captain of Education states the space is small so they are investigating the possibility of extending the hours and adding additional staff and security to accommodate the need.

Sergeant Carter also reports that there is not a parent bonding program or area at the Twin Towers facility.

Sergeant Carter responded to Commissioner Bigby's request if there is a way that urgent requests or complaints from inmates are handled and Sergeant Carter stated that with the current grievance system, grievances are scanned into their CART system for review by the grievance team Lieutenant and Commander within ten days, then they have fifteen days to

respond however there is currently a backlog of requests due to the volume of requests and complaints, which has caused delays in the process and they are working on a solution to shorten this timeframe.

The fourth concern regarding the draft at the shower doors in the trustee dorm at 1701 and 1702 coming from the open shower doors. The Captain stated the reason for this is to prevent mold and mildew build up on the shower doors caused by the lack of ventilation in the room, and they are working with Facilities maintenance to find a solution. It was also stated the showers are double scrubbed every Saturday to prevent mildew build up.

The fifth and final concern regarding the facility 20700 and the limited number of working toilets. This issue is reported as resolved.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

9. Approval of the September 6, 2017 Minutes. (17-4258)

On motion of Commissioner Barbara Bigby, seconded by Commissioner Percy Duran III, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

III. COMMISSION REPORTS

10. Chairperson's Report on various items. (17-3898)
11. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (17-3899)

No report was presented.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Public Comment

12. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (17-3900)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

13. Adjournment for the meeting of September 20, 2017. (17-3901)

There being no further business, Chairperson Bhatia adjourned the meeting of September 20, 2017 at 11:07 a.m.